

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGRE-00 SP-02 USIA-15 AID-05

EB-07 NSC-05 EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01

CEA-01 PA-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07

NSAE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 /110 W

-----008687 111823Z /53

R 111737Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5503

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 20102

USEEC AND USMTN

DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY FROM AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, FR, MTN

SUBJECT: ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE WITH PRIME  
MINISTER

SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER BARRE HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE  
ON JULY 7, FOLLOWING 8 HOURS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH FOUR  
MAJOR FRENCH FARM ORGANIZATIONS (APCA, FNSEA, CNJA,  
CNMCCA). MAJOR TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE EXPORT PROMOTION  
AND EXPANSION OF EC. BARRE AGREED TO MEET WITH FARM  
LEADERS AGAIN IN OCTOBER TO EVALUATE FARM INCOME SITU-  
ATION.

1. DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD EXPORTS. BARRE  
ANNOUNCED THAT A COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD  
EXPORTS WILL BE CREATED UNDER MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL TRADE,  
COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM DIFFERENT MINISTRIES  
AND KEY PEOPLE INVOLVED IN FOOD EXPORTS. ITS ROLE  
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WILL BE TO DEFINE OVERALL EXPORT STRATEGY AND DEVELOP  
SPECIFIC PROMOTIONAL MEASURES.

A GUARANTEE FUND AGAINST RISKS CAUSED BY VARIATIONS IN  
MCA'S IN INTRA-EC TRADE WILL ALSO BE ESTABLISHED. BARRE  
EXPECTS APPROVAL TO BE GRANTED BY BRUSSELS, AS HE  
CLAIMED THIS IS NOT COMPARABLE TO SUBSIDY. EARLIER

FRANCE SUBMITTED TO BRUSSELS MEMORANDUM REQUIRING REDUCTION OF INTRA-EC MCA'S ON SOME COMMODITIES AND PREFIXATION OF MCA'S FOR OUTSIDE-EC EXPORTS.

30 ADDITIONAL MILLION FF WILL BE ALLOCATED IN 1978 TO EXPORT PROMOTION AGENCIES (SOPEXA, CFCE, ETC.).

SPECIAL LOANS WILL BE GRANTED BY GOF FOR AGING OF WINES OF CONTROLLED ORIGIN AND OF ALCOHOLS (COGNAC, ARMAGNAC, RUM).

TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR EXPORTERS OF FOOD PRODUCTS WILL BE ESTABLISHED AND MORE AGRICULTURAL SPECIALISTS WILL BE ASSIGNED TO FRENCH EMBASSIES.

2. ENLARGEMENT OF EC. BARRE INDICATED THAT TRANSITORY PERIOD WILL BE REQUIRED IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE TO PROTECT FRENCH MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCERS. SAFEGUARD CLAUSES MIGHT BE NEGOTIATED, PRIMARILY FOR PEACHES AND CANNED TOMATOES.

REFORM OF CAP ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES WILL BE DISCUSSED IN BRUSSELS, BUT NO DETAILS WERE GIVEN AT CONFERENCE.

FURTHER MARKET ORGANIZATION FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, WINE AND FLOWERS WILL BE ENCOURAGED BY GOF. 16.5 MIL-  
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LION FF IN 1977 AND 66.7 IN 1978 WILL BE ALLOCATED TO

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/115 W

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THIS PURPOSE PLUS RENEWING OF ORCHARDS AND VINEYARDS IN  
MEDITERRANEAN AREAS.

3. MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES ANNOUNCED BY BARRE ARE AS FOL-  
LOWS: A) 145 ADDITIONAL MILLION FF WILL BE GRANTED TO  
LIVESTOCK AREA; B) PUBLIC INVESTMENTS IN RURAL AREAS WILL  
BE INCREASED IN NEXT BUDGET; C) IMPROVEMENT OF LEGAL  
STATUS OF FARMERS' WIVES WILL BE DISCUSSED IN NEXT PAR-  
LIAMENTARY SESSION; D) IN ORDER TO ATTRACT NON-FARMERS'  
PRIVATE INVESTMENT, GOF WILL FAVOR CREATION OF LAND  
OWNERSHIP CORPORATIONS BY GRANTING THEM DEPLETION ALLOW-  
ANCES; E) POWER OF SAFER (SEMI-PUBLIC LAND PURCHASE  
OFFICES) WILL BE INCREASED BY RAISING NUMBER OF ACRES  
THEY ARE ALLOWED TO BUY PER YEAR. THIS MEASURE UNDER-  
CUTS LEFT WING'S PROPOSALS FOR INCREASED GOVERNMENTAL  
CONTROL ON LAND TRANSACTIONS.

4. PRIME MINISTER AND FOUR FARM ORGANIZATIONS AGREED  
TO MEET AGAIN THIS FALL TO REVIEW FARMERS' INCOMES, AS  
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THE RATE OF INFLATION IS LIKELY TO PASS 6.5 PERCENT AND  
PRODUCTION COST FOR AGRICULTURAL SECTOR HAS SO FAR  
CLIMBED EVEN FASTER THAN GENERAL PRICE INDEX. AS FAR AS  
FARMERS THEMSELVES ARE CONCERNED, THIS NEXT MEETING WITH  
GOF IS OF EVEN MORE IMPORTANCE THAN THIS ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE.

5. REPRESENTATIVES OF FARM ORGANIZATIONS DID NOT REACT FA-  
VORABLY TO ANNOUNCED INTENTIONS OF GOF IN REGARD TO EC  
ENLARGEMENT. "IT IS DANGEROUS POLICY WHICH CAN LEAD TO  
FREE TRADE AND DESTRUCTION OF CAP", SAID EUGENE SCHAEFFER  
OF CNJA. "WE ARE NOT SATISFIED", SAID SYLVAIN GUIZARD  
OF APCA. FARM LEADERS REGRET THAT NO PRELIMINARY MEA-  
SURES TO PROTECT FRENCH FARMERS WILL BE REQUIRED BY GOF  
IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANDIDATE COUNTRIES TO EC. THEY  
STILL FEAR THAT POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WILL OVERRIDE  
INTERESTS OF MEDITERRANEAN FARMERS.  
HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

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